

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action dated January 16, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above claim amendment and the following remarks.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

In the Final Office Action dated January 16, 2004, Claims 1-36 were rejected as follows:

- Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 102(b) as being anticipated by Shaffer et. al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,091,810, hereinafter "Shaffer '810");
- Claims 16-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 102(b) as being anticipated by Riskin (U.S. Patent No. 4,757,267, hereinafter "Riskin"); and
- Claims 27-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Riskin in view of Shaffer et al. (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2002/0136381, hereinafter "Shaffer 2002 Application").

To the extent any of these rejections might still be applied to claims presently pending in this application, it is respectfully traversed.

Examiner Escalante is thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the telephone interview of February 10, 2004. Agreements were reached and the Interview Summary has been entered as Paper No. 9.

Regarding claims 1, 13 and 27, the Examiner agreed that the prior art of reference does not teach the limitation that the GIS system is located at a location associated with the called party. Support for this limitation can be found, for example, in Figures 1a and 2a and the associated description.

Regarding claim 16, the Examiner agreed that Riskin does not teach presenting the calling party with a menu of choices prior to contacting a GIS system. Support for this limitation

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can be found, for example, in the originally presented claim 16. The present amendment to claim 16 simply clarifies the sequence of steps.

In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

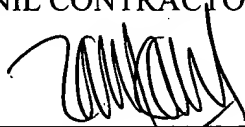
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Respectfully submitted,

SUNIL CONTRACTOR

Date: February 27, 2003

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